

MEETING OF THE ST. CROIX VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

March 17, 2024

Calais Veterans Hall, Calais, ME

Present were:

Roger Holst, W1LH, President
Dick Smith, VE9HX, Vice President
Rick MacMillan, VE9MTB, Treasurer
Maurry Mills, W1FWS, Secretary
Pedro Ceijas, WA4KEO
Mike Sanford, KB1GEO
Ann Carter, KB1RQH
Ken Carter, WA1DXO

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Holst at 2:00 PM.

The first order of business was to conduct elections for 2024. Ann Carter reported for the nominating committee that with the exception of the vice president from the US side the same slate of officers be nominated to serve another year

Motions to accept the recommendations of the nominating committee were made and seconded for each position. There were no nominations from the floor. There was a unanimous to re-elect each officer for another year. The vice president position from the US side will remain vacant for the time being.

Secretaries Report

Maurry read the highlights of the November 19, 2023 meeting; the minutes were accepted as read and are posted on the club web site.

Treasurer's Report

Rick reported the following balances:

Bank Account, as of 3/17/24:	\$2810.37
PayPal Account as of 11/19/23:	\$ 457.87
Cash on Hand as of 11/19/23:	\$ 335.50*
Spectrum Defense Fund as of 11/19/23:	\$ 85.00*
Scholarship Fund	\$ 5.00*
Total	\$3693.74

*For Deposit

Notes: Bank charges continue at \$3.00/month. Rick will try to switch our account to paperless banking to eliminate this \$3.00 monthly charge.

Approx. 7 memberships paid for 2024. The membership list for 2024 needs to be updated.

Paid \$35.00 to W1FWS at this meeting for fee paid to FCC to renew W1SCV and change the trustee.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by all present.

Old Business

Phil Duggan will not be offering Tech. License Class this spring.

The CanAm Dog Sled Races were cancelled due to mild weather and snow conditions.

The Clubs W1SCV call sign was renewed and the trustee changed to Maurry, W1FWS.

New Business

Phil Duggan was not present to provide a report. He decided to accept another two year term as section manager for ARRL.

Nothing new to report on the new web site. The same information is on both sites. Roger will try and get some updates done.

There was discussion about the St. Croix Island Special Event. We can get the W1S call sign for a two week period in July. Tentative dates for operation are July 6-20. May use a vertical on the shore; Roger also has a 75 meter dipole and Mike has a 30 ft. mast. We will finalize plans during the May and June meetings. The Park doesn't open until May 13. We will have to decide where we want to operate and get any required permissions.

Field Day will be held on June 22 and 23. Roger will check with the Alexander School to get permission to use the school grounds and the Grange to arrange for food at both FD and the annual Ham Fest, which will be September 21.

There is a new ham in Wesley, Larry Emmons, KC1KUM.

It was noted that we used to have much better attendance at our meetings. How do we attract new members and increase attendance? It was suggested that having presentations, possibly one on Female Radio Operators Group.

It was noted that in order to get printed copies of QST you must pay an additional \$25.00 annually to ARRL.

There will be a new event this year on April 6, a 2 meter simplex event.

The eclipse will be on April 8; areas that will have best viewing include Houlton, Danforth, and possibly Mus, quash. Special glasses are available for viewing the eclipse for \$2.00/pair.

Rick mentioned that there will be a simulated emergency event about Point Lepreau on October 29-30, 2024. This occurs every three years. It may involve upwards of 1,000 people and 35-40 agencies from federal, provincial, and state organizations.

Rick will be at an off-site emergency center; some radio activity is expected; the first day is a buildup to the situation and the second day may include simulated evacuations. Rick will do a presentation at the May meeting.

Suggestions for the good of the club:

Mike suggested we sponsor a fox hunt, a date of July 14 was mentioned.

Pedro suggested that ham radio be introduced in the school system, targeting grades 7 and 8. Most people on the air are older folks; it was also noted that some people get their licenses and never get on the air.

Ann mentioned that there is a sixth grade student in the Charlotte School interested in learning morse code.

The meeting was adjourned at 1530 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Maury Mills, Secretary

Upcoming Events

Near Fest April 25 and 26 in Deerfield NH

There will be a statewide Parks on the Air day on May 18, 2024. Clubs and individuals are encouraged to activate a local state or federal park, or wildlife area.

June 1 is the Hermon Hamfest at the Hermon School

June 15, 2024: The Maine State ARRL Convention will be at the Augusta Civic Center There is a raffle for a Honda generator to help raise funds for the new location, which will be more expensive to rent.

June 22-23: Field Day

September 21, 2014: Tentative date for clubs Hamfest at Alexander School.

Dues Reminder

The current dues are \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. They can be paid through PayPal or cash or check at a monthly meeting.